Labour productivity of the Indian Labour Force

5148. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what has the World Competitiveness Report 1994 reported about the Labour Productivity of the Indian Labour Force;

(b) whether it is a fact that the overall productivity of GDP per person in Indian has recorded a high rate of change, but the labour productivity has fallen in India;

(c) what are the reasons of the low productivity of the Indian Labour;

(d) which is the sector in which the Labour productiivty is the lowest; and

(e) what is being done to increase our labour productivity?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Compilation of consumer price Indices by labour Bureau,Simla

5149. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Labour Bureau in Simla compiles Consumer Price Indices for Agricultural Labourers and Industrial Workers;

(b) whether the Department, based on these indices, revised the minimum rates of wages in scheduled employments;

(c) if so, the details thereof, employment-wise;

(d) whether the States revise their minimum wage rates in consonance with the revision made by the Centre;

(e) if there is difference in the minimum wages of the Centre and State in the same category, then which rate would prevail; and

(f) how does our practice of computing minimum wages compare with the practice in USA, Japan, Russia and Brazil?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Central Government has provided for a component of special allowance as a part of minimum wages for all the 40 scheduled employments in respect of which the Central Government, as the appropriate government, has notified the minimum rates of wages. The special allowance is revised every six months on the basis of rise or fall in consumer price indices. A statement indicating the basic wage, special allowance and total minimum wage for the 40 scheduled employments (broadly categori sed into construction, agriculture, railway and mining sectors) is annexed. (Statement) (*See* below).

(d) and (e) There is no uniorm criteria and procedure for the fixation of minimum wages. Consequently, there are variations in the minimum rates of wages fixed by various State Governments and the Central Government. The Central Government on its part has provided that wherever the wages fixed by the State Governments for the same scheduled employment are higher, the higher rates are to be paid to the workers covered in the Central sphere.

(f) The Government does not maintain information on the criteri adopted for fixation of minimum wages in other countries.